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MARCH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1962.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Public Health, Housing
and Plans Committee.

Chairman - F. Fox Esq.

Councillors - Mrs. D. Fleming
L. F. Godfrey
A. E. Morton
T. A. Morton
H. A. Orbell
W. L. Shepperson

Medical Officer of Health

J. C. Burns, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Town Hall, March Telephone: March 2331.

Public Health Inspector

H. Burton, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Staff

Miss. J. Band

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1962

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report for the year 1962, together with a report from the Public Health Inspector.

I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health, Housing and Plans Committee for their interest and support and to my colleagues on the Council's staff for their assistance and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. BURNS

Medical Officer of Health.

General Statistics

Area in acres	19,786
Population (Registrar General's mid-year Estimate for 1962)	13,230
Number of inhabited houses	4,493
Number of houses owned by the Council	899
Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1963.)	£398,314
Amount represented by 1d. rate (1961/62)	£624.10s.3d

The area of the Urban District remained unchanged at 19,786 acres and the estimated population increased by 90 to 13,230. The main employment is either industrial, the large railway marshalling yards being situated within the district boundary, or agricultural, the surrounding farm land being rich and fertile.

Vital Statistics

Live Births

Number	{ Male 97 }	Total . . .	203
	{ Female 106 }		

Rate per 1,000 population 15.34

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births . 3.94

Stillbirths

Number	{ Male - }	Total . . .	1
	{ Female 1 }		

Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths 4.90

<u>Total</u> Live and Stillbirths	{ Male 97 }	Total . . .	204
	{ Female 107 }		

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)

	{ Male 1 }	Total . . .	7
	{ Female 6 }		

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births . . 34.48

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate

live births 35.89

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate

live births -

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000

total live births) 24.63

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per

1,000 total live births) 24.63

Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1

week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) . . 29.41

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths -

Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths -

Death rate per 1,000 population 11.11

<u>Cause of death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	-	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	9	22
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	9	15
Coronary disease, angina	10	5	15
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
Other heart disease	8	11	19
Other circulatory disease	2	1	3
Influenza	3	1	4
Pneumonia	7	5	12
Bronchitis	7	3	10
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	2	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4	8
All other accidents	6	2	8
Suicide	2	-	2
Homicide and operations of war	1	-	1
	88	59	147

The following table gives the percentage of deaths in the principal age groups.

Under 1 year	4.76
1 - 5 years	1.36
6 - 15 years	-
16 - 65 years	27.89
66 and over	65.99

100.00%

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year.

Measles	35
Scarlet Fever	6
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	2
	43

Food Hygiene

The Public Health Inspector's report contains the necessary comments on this subject.

Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning were reported during 1962.

National Assistance Act

During 1962 one female aged (86 years) was removed to Hospital under the above Act and subsequently died in Hospital three weeks later.

Factories Act, 1937 - 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1962 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF MARCH IN THE COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF ELY.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4			
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	46	7		
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2			
Total	52	7	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H. M. Inspector	By H. M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanli- ness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Con- veniences (S.7)					
a) Insufficient					
b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2		2	
c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences the against the Act (not including offences re- lating to Out- work)					
Total	2	2		2	

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	Section 133		Section 134		
		No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel	Making etc.,	1				
	Cleaning & washing					
Household linen						
Lace, lace curtains and nets						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						
Iron and steel cables & chains						

PART VIII OF THE ACT (CONTD.)

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
B/fd	1					
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	1					
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc. of buttons etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates & sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings etc.						
Textile wearing						
Lampshades						
TOTAL	2					

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARCH

Public Health Inspector's Report for the year 1962.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following are details of visits, interviews, inspections and re-inspections carried out in 1962.

[illegible]

The following tables show defects found and remedied during the year by action under the various Acts.

	Defects found	Defects remedied	Outstanding at the end of 1962
<u>Sanitary Accommodation and Drains</u>			
Defective sanitary accommodation	3	3	-
Blocked drains .	2	2	-
Broken cesspool cover	1	1	-
Defective sink	1	1	-
Defective water pipe	1	-	1
C/fd.	8	7	1

	<u>Defects found</u>	<u>Defects remedied</u>	<u>Outstanding at the end of 1962.</u>
B/fd.	8	7	1
<u>Verminous Infestation</u>			
Rats and mice	30	30	-
Ants	2	2	-
Wasps	2	2	-
<u>Housing Defects</u>			
Defective walls	3	1	2
" ceilings	2	2	-
" roofs	4	2	2
" eaves gutters	2	2	-
" fireplace	1	1	-
" windows	2	2	-
Dampness	1	1	-
Fuel store	1	1	-
<u>Food Hygiene</u>			
Dirty bread trays	1	1	-
Smoking in food premises	1	1	-
Accumulations	1	-	1
	61	55	6

Tables of Notices served during 1962

	<u>Served during 1962</u>	<u>Complied with by 31.12.62</u>
Public Health and Housing Acts		
Verbal	17	14
Letter	11	9
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949		
Verbal	7	7
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960		
Verbal	1	1
Letter	1	1
Factories Act, 1937		
Verbal	2	2
Means of Escape in Case of Fire		
Letter	2	2
	41	36

HOUSING

It is interesting to note that during 1962 the Council made four Demolition Orders and two Closing Orders. Sixteen houses were actually demolished which included some from Demolition Orders made during 1961. Eleven of these families were re-housed by the Council during the year. One acceptance to carry out work was received and one undertaking cancelled after the dwelling had been made fit.

Two applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during 1962 but in each case the work was carried out prior to the Council Meeting.

Circular 42/62 issued in August by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government asked local authorities to make a systematic approach to the improvement of houses particularly in regard to the provision of hot water systems, bathrooms, indoor water closets etc., and from inspections made by the end of the year it was apparent that at least 117 dwellings were capable of this type of improvement. Further inspections will be made of other properties but it is too early yet to give a comprehensive report.

DRAINAGE

During the early part of 1962 numerous visits were made to ascertain the position with regard to existing pail closets and vaults not yet connected to the sewer where it was available. Owners were written to in this respect and further connections were made. This matter is being pursued.

WATER SUPPLY

Extensions to the water mains were completed during 1959 and where mains have been laid many new connections have been made to properties.

The following is the information requested by the Ministry:

- (1) Whether the water supply of the area and of its parts has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Yes.

- (2) Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations have been made of the raw water, and the results of any analysis.

No samples were taken during the year, but the water is known to be examined at regular intervals by the Water Board.

- (3) The position as to contamination by lead.

The water is hard and has no plumbo solvent action.

- (4) Action as to contamination.

There has been no evidence of contamination during the year.

- (5) Particulars of the proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of population supplied from the public water mains.

(a) direct to houses - 88%. (b) by means of stand pipes - 10%.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

During 1962 a new private site was licensed for eight caravans. The caravans (with piped water into each) and toilet block of four water closets are connected to the sewer, showers and washing facilities being provided also in the toilet block. A concrete roadway runs the length of the site and space has been provided for a children's playground. The caravans are on hard standings and electricity is also installed in each van.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

At present five premises are registered under the above Act and these are subject to inspection by the R.S.P.C.A. and myself.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

During 1962 four installations were approved under the above Act.

RATS AND MICE

The refuse dumps are treated regularly and the sewers have been dealt with in accordance with the recommendations laid down by the Ministry. Infestation in the sewers is almost negligible.

In April 1962 the Council participated with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and North Witchford Rural District Council by convening a meeting at the Town Hall for farmers and their staff to discuss the problem of rat infestation. Following a discussion two films were shown on the behaviour and destruction of rats.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

Three slaughterhouses were licensed during 1962 and the number of animals killed during the year at the three slaughterhouses is as follows:- 6 cows, 4 calves, 795 other bovines, 1,306 sheep, 2,671 pigs and 65 goats giving a total of 4,847, which was slightly above the 1961 total of 4,718. In order to inspect these animals a total of 706 visits was required to the three slaughterhouses and this figure includes 114 evening and Sunday visits.

Mention must be made here of the consideration received from the slaughtermen and butchers whose co-operation does facilitate the easier working of a system of meat inspection.

Nineteen slaughtermen's licenses were issued during 1962.

Condemnations include the following whole carcasses:-
2 cows, 2 beasts, 14 sheep, 1 calf and 37 pigs - total 56 which, together with a quantity of offal and parts of carcasses brings the total weight of meat and offal condemned up to 4 tons 9 cwts. 13 lbs. which is an increase on the 1961 figure when the total was 3 tons 10 cwts. 5 st. 7 lbs.

Other foods.

Tinned and other foods surrendered during the year totalled 258 lbs. 13 ozs.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned
from 1st January, 1962 to 31st December, 1962

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	795	6	4	1306	2671	-
Number inspected	795	6	4	1306	2671	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	2	2	1	14	37	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	41	-	-	4	28	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis.	5.04	33.33	25.00	1.37	2.43	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	24	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	0.89	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned.	4	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	4	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Churn Rinses.

During 1962, twelve samples of Churn Rinses were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge. The following are the results.

No. of Samples Taken.	Satisfactory.	Fairly Satisfactory.	Un- Satisfactory.
12	9	-	3

Food Hygiene.

The Minister requests that reports of previous years should be amplified to include the following information:-

- (1) the number, if available, of food premises in the area by type of business:

Green grocery	9
Grocery	24
Butchers	18
Fish shops	12
Bakehouses	3
Confectionery	14
Cafes & Restaurants	5
Mineral Water Premises	1

86

In addition there are some 46 licensed premises including clubs.

- (2) the number of food premises by type registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, or under Local Acts.

Premises registered for the sale of ice cream -	41
Premises registered for the preparation of meat pies and sausages -	19
Premises registered for the sale of fish and chips -	11

- (3) the number of inspections of registered food premises with informative comment as necessary.

Inspections of registered food premises and other food shops generally (including slaughterhouses) are shown on page 9.

- (4) any new educational activity (e.g. inauguration of clean food guilds or lectures on food hygiene) and the progress of established educational activity.

New posters are regularly exhibited relating to food hygiene and other matters.

- (5) the methods of disposal of condemned food.

Where condemnation certificates are issued for tinned food etc., the food is collected and disposed of by the Council. Condemned meat at the slaughterhouses is collected by Contractors for processing.

- (6) where special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food has been necessary, the total quantity as well as the quantity condemned.

Page 12 shows the weight of meat and other food condemned.

- (7) reference to the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947 - 1952.

Twenty-five samples of ice cream were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Cambridge. The provisional grading of samples was as follows:-

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Total
24	1	-	-	25

It will be observed that 96% of these samples were classified Grade 1. At the end of the year 40 shops were registered for the sale of ice cream. There is one manufacturer in the area. Three samples of iced lollies were taken and all reported as satisfactory.

- (8) reference to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960.

Some 89 food premises (including shops, slaughterhouses and licensed premises) were inspected during 1962 for compliance with the above Regulations.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACT, 1928 and 1936.

Under the above Acts 55 licences were issued for the storage of Petroleum spirit and 2 for the storage of Calcium Carbide.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

In circular 1/63 the Minister requests information regarding common lodging houses. There is one registered common lodging house in this district and during 1962 eight inspections were made of the premises which are generally satisfactorily kept. Limewashing of the rooms is periodically carried out and the premises accommodate seventeen lodgers.

In conclusion, I should like to take the opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council and my colleagues on the Staff for their helpful co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. BURTON.

Public Health Inspector.

1st August, 1963.

